GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:885
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Flagship Programmes in Agriculture
Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched several flagship programmes to redress the genuine grievances of farmers and encourage them to produce more food crops for the country and if so, the details thereof along with the benefits being reaped by the farmers thereunder;

(b) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised thereunder during the last three years and the current year and the outcome thereof State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether there is any monitoring cell put in place to ensure the implementation of the said programmes and evaluate the impact of the various plans and policies of Government on the agriculture sector and if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government has highlighted and incorporated the major issues of agriculture sector in the 12th Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any mechanism put in place to oversee whether the Government is moving in tandem with the said Plan and the targets of the plan have been achieved and the issues of agriculture sector are resolved and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (d): (i) The Scheme 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms' a component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)" under "National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)" is under implementation in 652 districts of 29 states & 3 UTs of the country including 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-driven and farmer-accountable extension system through an institutional arrangement for technology dissemination in the form of an Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at district level. Under the scheme grants-in-aid is released to State Governments with an objective to support their efforts of revitalization of the extension

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system and making available the latest agricultural technologies in different thematic areas to increase agricultural production through extension activities viz. Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and Setting up of Farm Schools. Through these activities, latest agriculture technologies are disseminated to farmers of the country.

ii. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is a flagship programme launched in 2015, which aims at enhancing irrigation coverage and improves water use efficiency. PMKSY adopts state level planning and projectised execution that allows state to draw up their own irrigation development based on District Irrigation Plans and State Irrigation Plans. The scheme has been approved with an outlay of Rs. 50.00 crore for a period of 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20). During 2015-16, Rs. 7298.7 crore were released under the above component of NMSA through all concerned implementing Ministries/ Department.

iii. National Mission on Oilseeds and oil Palm (NMOOP) is being implemented since 2014-15. The various interventions of this Mission are implemented through the State Government. The NMOOP programme was started during XII Plan period since 2014-15 and the main objective of the mission is to enhance production and productivity of oilseed crops and bringing additional area coverage under oil palm cultivation for increasing the production of domestic vegetable oils.

iv. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during XII Plan w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo. Mission subsumes National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH), National Bamboo Mission (NBM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Coconut Development Board (CDB) and Central Institute for Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH. The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruits through various interventions. Activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient

Management (INM), organic farming, including insitu generation of organic inputs are taken up for development of fruits and vegetables. Capacity buildings of farmers and technicians are also provided for adopting improved technologies. Scheme also envisages creation of infrastructure for post harvest management (PHM) and marketing for better price realization of produce.

v. Soil Health Management (SHM) scheme under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). SHM aims at promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures and biofertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity; upgradation of skill and knowledge of soil testing laboratory staff, extension staff and farmers through training and demonstrations.

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vi. Besides, "Soil Health Card" Scheme is under implementation in the country since February 2015 to provide Soil Health Card to all farmers in the country. Soil Health Card will provide information to farmers on soil nutrient status of their soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrient to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility thus increase agricultural productivity. Soil Health card will be issued every 2 years for all land holdings in the country.

(b): State-wise and year-wise details of funds allocated, released and utilized under the Schemes during each of the last three years and current year is given in Annexure.

(c): Scheme wise details are as under
(i) The activities of the scheme are monitored and evaluated at periodic intervals through a specific mechanism generated at different levels − Block, District, State and National Level. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) is conducted through Block Farmers Advisory Committee (BFAC) and Block Technology Team (BTT) (Block Level) & ATMA Governing Body (GB) (District Level) and the Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) at the State Level. To achieve necessary convergence, State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) set up in the State to consider and approve C-DAPs under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) funding also considers and approves State Extension Work Plan (SEWP) and carry out periodic monitoring. Besides, the activities of the Scheme are also regularly monitored at the national level through Zonal Input Conferences held both for Rabi and Kharif seasons.

(ii) Mission Monitoring Committee which meets periodically to oversee the monitoring activities of the NMOOP and to review the physical and financial progress.

(iii) Progress of MIDH is monitored, through review meetings and field visits by Joint Inspection Teams (JIT) to the various States. Accounts of SHMs are also audited every year to track expenditure under the Mission. Web based progress monitoring system is in place wherein physical and financial progress is uploaded on a monthly basis.

(iv) The monitoring of Soil Health Management (SHM) & Soil Health Card (SHC) is being carried out though visits by the officers to State and also weekly Video Conferencing.

(e): Under the scheme "Support to State Extension Reforms" the activities of the scheme are monitored and evaluated at periodic intervals through a specific mechanism generated at different levels − Block, District, State and National Level. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) is conducted through Block Farmers Advisory Committee (BFAC) and Block Technology Team (BTT) (Block Level) & ATMA Governing Body (GB) (District Level) and the Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) at the State Level. To achieve necessary convergence, State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) set up in the State to consider and approve C-DAPs under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) funding also considers and approves State Extension Work Plan(SEWP) and carry out periodic monitoring. Besides, the activities of the Scheme are also regularly monitored at the national level through Zonal Input Conferences held both for Rabi and Kharif seasons.